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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Robinson ORIGINAL DATE 2/5/07
LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____
SHORT TITLE UNM Regional Studies Program SB 389
ANALYST Leger

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
	\$250.0	Nonrecurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to SB 398

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

New Mexico Higher Education Department (HED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 389 appropriates \$250 thousand from the general fund to the University of New Mexico (UNM) for the regional studies program.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$250 thousand contained in this bill is a nonrecurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY08 shall revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

According to HED the mission of the Center for Regional Studies is to provide research, teaching opportunities, and service opportunities on issues involving New Mexico and the Southwest, including the United States-Mexico border region. The center focuses on social issues such as water rights and land grants.

Funds appropriated in SB 389 will provide a total of 40 scholarships to be distributed among undergraduate and graduate students, as well as fellowships and internships, support for faculty research, faculty recruitment, and film documentaries about New Mexico and the southwest region.

A breakdown of the funds is as follows:

- Scholarships
Undergraduate - \$5,000
Graduate - \$12,500
- Faculty research - \$150,000
- 10 fellowships co-sponsored by UNM Southwest Hispanic Research Institute
- Internships and film documentaries

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

SB 398 appropriates \$1 million for professorships for the UNM Center for Regional Studies

JL/mt